

The Intelligencer.

Death of Vice President Wilson.

The death of this distinguished public man, which occurred at Washington City yesterday morning, will not be a matter of surprise to the country, inasmuch as it was generally known that he was a victim of that insidious and relentless disease, paralysis, and constantly increasing, notwithstanding his apparent robustness, and the fact that he had been a sufferer from the stroke that fell upon him some years ago. The only wonder is, considering the application of Mr. Wilson to literary labor, his history of the rise, progress and fall of slavery, that he has not sooner experienced a return of his original attack. He stood up well, like Chief Justice Chase, hoping against hope that the natural vigor of his constitution, coupled with good general habits, would enable him to wear out his disability. But in this, as is so generally the case with paralysis, he was mistaken, and at last he has paid the penalty and experienced the fate of so many over-taxed brain workers in public life.

The career of Vice President Wilson is pretty familiar to the reading public of this country. Without having been remarkable for certain brilliant episodes, like that of his late colleague, Senator Sumner, and other political characters whom we might name, it has been noted as a new illustration of what fair capacity united with good principles and great industry can accomplish. Like the late ex-President Johnson, Mr. Wilson began his life in the very bottom round of the ladder. Obscure birth and iron fortune weighed upon him in early days, added the bleak and inhospitable hills of New Hampshire as it did upon the deceased ex-President, in his humble home in North Carolina. But in both cases the star was in the men themselves, that despite all, the powers of fortune enabled them to rise and shake off the fetters that bound them. Slowly but surely the future Vice President wrestled with his adverse fate. Although bound out to service at the tender age of 10 years he began even then early to give indications of a determination to rise superior to the handicaps that seemingly made a high career in life a hopeless undertaking. He suffered an ardent love of useful books and never a moment of his time, even when a child, to pass unimproved. He worked hard by day and read books at night. Although only a farmer's apprentice from his eleventh to his twenty-first year, yet on reaching his majority he had read a thousand volumes—such volumes as he had been able to gather among his neighbors, and on becoming his own man had this stock of knowledge along with a fund of good common sense, and a brave heart, with which to commence his career. He learned the trade of a shoemaker, worked at it for two years, saved his earnings and kept on increasing his stores of general information. Possessing a good memory, and having the power to make use of his information, his unusual intelligence, for one in his station in life soon began to attract attention, and gradually his sphere of intellectual association widened in the world, and the "Natick Cobbler" soon became known, like the "Greenville Tailor," as one who could instruct every body around him in all that related to the history of the government or the politics of the country. Consequently he soon became a man of local reputation, and as in days of old, the common people heard him gladly, and at last took him up and made him time after time, their representative in one or the other branches of the Massachusetts Legislature.

Vice President Wilson's advancement in public life was slow but sure and steady. He retained all his successes and never went back as is so often the case with many more gifted men. He was elected to the U. S. Senate in 1855 and remained there until elected to the Vice Presidency in 1872. As a Senator he was known for his great industry, the fairness of his information, and the accuracy of his statements. He was thoroughly posted in the business before the Senate and he was always at his post. During the war he was Chairman of the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, one of the most important posts connected with the prosecution of the war, and it was here that he achieved a reputation among the public men of the country only second to that won by Secretary Stanton.

During the long contest with slavery, both before the war and during the war, Vice President Wilson stood in the front ranks of its most powerful antagonists. He did not theorize so learnedly in regard to the institution as Mr. Sumner or Mr. Seward, but he busied himself with marching out and putting before the country its practical bearings on the census tables, in the way of economic values. This feature of his speeches gave them great weight, and insured their wide publicity throughout the country.

The crowning ambition of the deceased Vice President's life seems to have been to leave behind him as his monument a fallible and interesting history of the great anti-slavery struggle. He has been at work on this history for years, and we presume the chief part of the labor has been done. At all events, some other hand must take up the pen that has suddenly dropped from his hand and complete whatever remains of his task. The long, arduous and useful life of him who had attained the highest place save one in the government, climbing up and up "with patient steps but slow," has been cut short regardless of all that remained to be accomplished. Let us hope now that he rests from his labors, that he sleeps well.

In last week's issue of the American Newspaper Reporter, under the heading "Intelligencer," is noted the demise of one hundred and twenty publications, twelve by consolidation with other publications, and one hundred and eight by suspension.

The Impeachment.

Judge Stuart, of Doddridge county, yesterday resumed his remarks and occupied the morning hour in finishing his argument. It was admitted on all hands to be a most exhaustive analysis of the evidence submitted by the investigating Committee. No argument yet submitted to the House has been so free from extraneous considerations so entirely devoted of all matters not bearing directly upon the issue. How strongly the lucid argument of the Judge has impressed itself upon the minds of the members remains to be seen. There are powerful influences at work the nature of which may be revealed in the near future. It is evident that matters have assumed a degree of importance to which it was perhaps never presumed that they would rise. The Sachems of the party have gathered themselves together in council, United States Senators and Congressmen all, with one exception, are here. They have not come as a body. Some of them have been on the floor of the House for days watching the progress of things, and one by one, like autumn leaves, the others have dropped down upon the scene, and now they are all here. Is it a merely accidental gathering, or is it a crisis worthy the attention of the consolidated wisdom of the party that calls them here?

At this "stage of the game" the managing committee have been deserted by the gentleman from Jefferson, Mr. Mason, who opened the proceedings on the Thursday last with all the plenitude of the ore rotundo, and who came forth from the solitude of his own originality laden with precedents drawn from history backward to eternity. Has the gentleman become convinced that he is in error, that his precedents are but the myths of the dead past, unreliable and inapplicable to the present case. Has he become convinced that with the light thrown upon the merits of the evidence by the protracted discussion which has taken place, he cannot conscientiously continue in the discharge of the duty assigned him. Let the gentleman answer for himself. In addressing the House to a question of privilege he said that he found himself deserted by his friends Welch and Blakemore. He thought that their desertion put him in a false position, made him appear as taking sides with the Republicans against the Democratic party. He did not intend to antagonize his political associations. Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Ascalon, that a legislator yields his convictions of right and duty to his standing with a party. Does the gentleman forget that it is only a contracted understanding that deals in little schemes, which dishonor if they fail and do no credit if they succeed. In one instance at least the party lash has not been wielded in vain.

Notwithstanding the desertion, at the last hour, of one whose departure is only conspicuous by reason of the conspicuity of his entrance, the cause of the people will be ably advocated by the remaining members of the management. It is not a cause that stands or falls upon the attitude of a single individual.

We had hoped better things of the gentleman from Jefferson, but if his is not a case in which vaulting ambition has overleaped itself we fail to form a correct opinion of the constituency which he represents. We are sorry that his course may give a coloring to the proposition that the whole question has been reduced to a party squabble, resembling in its conclusion the pomp of a mock tragedy wherein the Legislature and the accused will be alike subjects of derision.

We say that it is not justice to the Auditor and Treasurer to drop the proceedings now; it is not justice to the members of the Legislature itself; it is not justice to the people. It is unjust to the accused, because it will leave them under a black cloud, as effectually destroying the confidence of the people in their integrity as if they had been tried and convicted. It will be unjust to the members of the Legislature, because it will make them appear to have shirked their responsibility, seemingly like cowards preferring infamy to danger. It will be unjust to the people, because they have a right to know whether their affairs are being managed in their interest or for the enrichment of their officials. There is therefore no consideration, whether of party or principle, that can justify the suspension of the proceedings.

The reckless extravagance of the people and the dishonesty of officials are the legacy of the war. The hard times incident to the return of the business of the country to the normal conditions of trade, have measurably corrected the former, and the times imperatively demand the restoration of official integrity. The burden of debt entailed by the life struggle of the nation is an incubus upon its prosperity, and the strictest economy and fidelity in husbanding the resources of the people are indispensable to a return of prosperity. The loss of integrity is the baneful curse that lifts its hydra head in every department in the States and in the nation. Its restoration must be begun, as it were, on the instant, irrespective of the past. It must be commenced somewhere, and it must be pursued with vigor.

Cities and States as well as the highest officials in the nation are engaged in the work of reform. It is a Herculean task, but we believe the strength of the people is equal to the emergency. They will not be satisfied with the plea that wrong doing in the past justifies its continuance; they will not believe that no moral responsibility attaches to official position; they will not believe that those whom they have clothed with honor as with a garment, are not in duty bound to keep themselves free from even the suspicion of wrong doing. Those who observe the tendency of the times do well to harken to the warning.

Rev. Dr. Miner, of Boston, wants to send missionaries around to the newspaper offices. Let 'em be in good condition and get 'em distributed before Thanksgiving.—Providence Press.

The Hospital for the Insane on Fire.

A special dispatch received at 2 o'clock this morning from G. W. Strickler, Esq., and dated 12:20 P. M. of yesterday, announces that the West Virginia Hospital for the Insane was then burning.

**PERSONS AND THINGS.**

The woman is yet to be discovered who, when her husband is pouring explosives into the bosom of his clean shirt, will not solemnly declare that the garment had every button on it when it was put away.

A Sacramento lady who sports an artificial tooth left on the table of the restaurant where she had taken breakfast the other morning, and on returning for it about an hour afterward found it attached as a charm to the fob-chain of the waiter.

A Brooklyn husband gets along comfortably with one hour's sleep per night. It is the result of training, his wife having for years followed the practice of sleeping in the daytime and devoting the usual hours of rest to conversational recreation of the high-keyed order.

Since the Cleveland woman saved off the leg of her drunken husband, discontented and unhappy wives all over the land are anxiously waiting to see if their Cleveland sister will be punished to any severe extent, providing themselves with saws in the meantime.

Philadelphia builds six thousand new houses every year. Everybody there not only has a house of his own to live in, but has another standing by ready for him to move into in case the one he lives in should be struck by lightning.

A wild goose flew into Oregon, and its crop being opened revealed a new kind of grain. From the seed forty bushels have been raised, and the Oregon farmers are sitting on the fences with their elbows on their knees wondering what they shall call the new kind of whicky they will make from it.

A Vassar girl wrote home:—"Dear Papa, we study Latin for a while a day, French seven up and science evah so long. The good matrons neval let us go wot. Won't you send me my legginis and skates for a pair! Little girl who lives in the village. Don't forget the heel straps."

By Telegraph

ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

TO THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER.

Death of Vice President Wilson.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 22.—Vice President Wilson died very suddenly at 7:30 o'clock this morning. He rested well last night, was awake at 7 A. M., and expressed himself as feeling bright and better. He sat up in bed to take medicine, lay down on his left side, and expired in a few moments without a struggle.

It having been represented last night that Vice President Wilson had somewhat improved, his attending physician, Dr. Wood, was called to see him, and he was able to leave this city for the North this week, the intelligence of his death this morning fell with startling force and suddenness on the community. The Vice President seemed on Saturday to be a great deal better than at any time during his sickness, but yesterday he was not quite so well.

Postmaster Burt, of Boston, called in the forenoon, and had a pleasant talk with him. Mr. Crossman, of the New York Literary Friend, also visited him on business concerning his unfinished work, the subject of "F. A. Wood." The Vice President being in a condition requiring rest, Mr. Crossman retired. The Vice President then slept from 1 till 3 o'clock, when he rose. Mr. Crossman returned in the morning at the Vice President's request and remained till evening. The Vice President went to bed at an early hour and slept tolerably well during the night except his awakening at intervals asking for water. About midnight he got up and walked around the room, then going to the table took a little book of poems entitled "The Changed Cross" with the motto "Nisi ego sum, cum sit Thos." and read three verses from it, one of which was as follows:

"Help us, O Lord, with patient love to bear,  
Each others' wounds to suffer with true meekness,  
Help us each others' joys and sorrows to share,  
And turn the turn of the wheel of life."

Other verses had been marked in the book, among them was the following:

"What if poor sinners could but see,  
The sign of an unchristian will,  
Who can give life to the dead,  
Knows that Thos. art subtlest still."

The volume belonged to his wife, and it contained a photograph of her and their son, both deceased. He treasured it very much, and he said that he had read it over and over again, and that he was comforted by it.

WASHINGTON, November 22.—General Ord, in command of the Department of Texas, in his annual report gives quite a lengthy account of the border operations of the Mexican bandits, most of which has been anticipated by press publications. The report closes with the following significant suggestions: "More effectual means must be adopted than sending troops to look on while our people are being despoiled and murdered, for it is very evident that the soldiers, however willing, can do nothing confined to this side of the river; and an order to make reprisals, with means to carry out the order, has sometimes resulted in indemnity as well as security."

**ARMY REPORT.**

The annual report of General Sherman, after stating the geographical limits of the various commands, says: The aggregate strength of the line of the Army, 61,510 enlisted men, made up of 250 officers; Five regiments of artillery, 270 officers and 2,504 men; 10 regiments of cavalry, 422 officers and 7,200 men; 25 regiments of infantry, 848 officers and 11,000 men; available recruits, hospital stewards, and sutlers, 3,321. During the past winter the troops in the Departments of Missouri and Texas were employed in an arduous and severe winter campaign against the Indians on the border and the staked plains, that have for years been engaged in depredations on the frontier. The soldiers, however, resulting in their disarmament and subjection to authority. If the military commanders can have control over the supplies needed by these Indians as they now have over their persons, I am convinced by my recent visit that a condition of peace can be effected. The Sioux, recently made incursions into Northern Nebraska, mostly to steal cattle and horses from the farms along the Pacific Railroad and north of it. General Crooks is of the opinion that the whole army, acting defensively, can not prevent incursions, and that the only way to be stationed in the midst of the Indians so as to watch them and prevent their leaving on the pretense of hunting. This is impracticable unless the army can have the supervision of the necessary supplies of these tribes within the reservation, which is not now the case. The reports of the several commissions which have, under military escort, recently been engaged in exploring the country and in negotiating with the Indians, will throw much light on this subject. Generally speaking, the damage to life and property by the Indians is believed to be lessening the past year than in any former year, and the prospect is that as the country settles up it will be less each year until the Indians are established on small reservations. But until they acquire habits of industry in farming or stock raising, they will need food from the general government, because the game on which they have hitherto subsisted has diminished very rapidly.

**HONORS TO THE VICE PRESIDENT.**

In compliance with the order of the President directing that appropriate military and naval honors be rendered to Vice President Wilson, the following order was issued by the Secretary of War this afternoon: On the day succeeding the receipt of this order each military post of troops will be paraded at 10 o'clock A. M. and the order read to them. The national flag will be displayed at half mast. At dawn of day thirteen guns will be fired. Commencing at 12 M. seventeen minute guns will be fired, and at the close of day a national salute of thirty-seven guns. The usual badge of mourning will be worn by the officers of the army and the colors of the several regiments will be put in mourning for a period of three months. An appropriate order will be issued by the Secretary of the Navy to-morrow morning.

The following internal reference store-keepers have been appointed: Joseph Berry and James Kennedy, Fifth Kentucky district; John W. Tipton, First Tennessee district.

**Crushed to Death.**

LOUISVILLE, November 22.—William Davidson, of New Albany, was decapitated and crushed flat, in that city to-night, by a train of six cars. He had just saved a man from death by stopping a runaway team.

**Suicide.**

NASHVILLE, November 22.—Leonard Nisley, a young man nineteen years of age, resident of Edgefield, committed suicide this afternoon by blowing out his brains with a pistol. Cause unknown.

friendship formed a number of years ago in Natick. Yesterday evening, between 8 and 8 o'clock, the Vice President said to the doctor, who had a letter put on the back of my neck instead of this plaster." Wood replied that he could manage that simple matter without the doctor. To which Mr. Wilson rejoined, "Yes, but I don't want to take the responsibility. The attendant asked him if he did not like to have a message sent to the doctor, but he said, after thinking a moment, 'No; it is not worth while.' Afterwards he requested Mr. Wood to send a friend to Mr. Carpenter for another bottle of Cape of Good Hope wine, from which he thought he would get some relief. At 9 o'clock he signified his readiness to be prepared for sleep. Boyden and Wood then gently rubbed his feet, limbs and back, as usual, at intervals, until half-past nine. During the process Mr. Wilson was very cheerful and said he felt better than he had for some time, and he had been reading with a message sent to the doctor, but he said, after thinking a moment, 'No; it is not worth while.' Afterwards he requested Mr. Wood to send a friend to Mr. Carpenter for another bottle of Cape of Good Hope wine, from which he thought he would get some relief. At 9 o'clock he signified his readiness to be prepared for sleep. Boyden and Wood then gently rubbed his feet, limbs and back, as usual, at intervals, until half-past nine. During the process Mr. Wilson was very cheerful and said he felt better than he had for some time, and he had been reading with a message sent to the doctor, but he said, after thinking a moment, 'No; it is not worth while.' Afterwards he requested Mr. Wood to send a friend to Mr. Carpenter for another bottle of Cape of Good Hope wine, from which he thought he would get some relief. 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